

**PATENT APPLICATION**  
**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Docket No: Q97138

Masaki YANAGIOKA, et al.

Appln. No.: Unknown

Confirmation No.: Unknown

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Filed: September 21, 2006

Examiner: Unknown

For: RUBBER COMPOSITION FOR TIRE TREAD AND PNEUMATIC TIRE USING THE  
SAME

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

**MAIL STOP AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

1. JP-A 2003-96332 A published April 3, 2003, to Tokai Carbon Co., Ltd.
2. JP-A 10-287769 A published October 27, 1998, to Bridgestone Corp.
3. JP-A 8-269360 A published October 15, 1996, to Mitsubishi Chemical Corp.
4. JP-A 11-60984 A published March 5, 1999, to Shin Nikka Carbon Kabushiki.
5. JP-A 9-40883 A published February 10, 1997, to Nippon Steel Chemical Co., Ltd.
6. JP-A 11-269403 A published October 5, 1999, to Tokai Carbon Co., Ltd.
7. JP-A 4-108837 A published April 9, 1992, to Tokai Carbon Co., Ltd., with English Abstract.

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8. JP-A 10-036703 A published February 10, 1998, to Nippon Steel Chemical Co., Ltd. and Nippon Steel Corp., with English Abstract.

One copy of JP-A 4-108837 A and JP-A 10-036703 A is submitted herewith. Also enclosed is a copy of the International Search Report which identifies References 1-6, listed above.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,  
/John T. Callahan/

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WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: September 21, 2006

John T. Callahan  
Registration No. 32,607

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO  <b><u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</u></b>  (use as many sheets as necessary)			<i>Complete if Known</i>		
			Application Number	Unknown	
			Confirmation Number	Unknown	
			Filing Date	September 21, 2006	
			First Named Inventor	Masaki YANAGIOKA	
			Art Unit	Unknown	
			Examiner Name	Unknown	
			Attorney Docket Number	Q97138	
Sheet	1	of	1		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		
		US			
		US			
		US			
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		US			
		US			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)			
		JP	2003-96332	A	04/03/2003	Tokai Carbon Co., Ltd.	
		JP	10-287769	A	10/27/1998	Bridgestone Corp.	
		JP	8-269360	A	10/15/1996	Mitsubishi Chemical Corp.	
		JP	11-60984	A	03/05/1999	Shin Nikka Carbon Kabushiki Kaisha	
		JP	9-40883	A	02/10/1997	Nippon Steel Chemical Co., Ltd.	
		JP	11-269403	A	10/05/1999	Tokai Carbon Co., Ltd.	
		JP	4-108837	A	04/09/1992	Tokai Carbon Co., Ltd.	
		JP	10-036703	A	02/10/1998	Nippon Steel Chemical Co., Ltd.	

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>6</sup>

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov), MPEP 901.04 or follow the hyperlink from the title of the document to the intranet. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.